

FIRE INVESTIGATOR

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This is entry level technical work in the investigation of the causes of fires of undetermined origin, analyzing the incidence of fire as a basis for preventive measures, and performing associated educational and informational work in fire presentation. Employees of this class carry out assignments in their area of responsibility; prepare reports; and appear in court to present testimony related to investigative findings. Following initial training, employees are expected to work with some independence in most aspects of their work. After a period of training and closely observed work experience, employees of this class interview and interrogate witnesses; make arrests; prefer charges; and appear in court as a witness. Although a higher ranking officer may provide guidance and training in their day-to-day activities, employees of this class report to and are supervised and evaluated by the Fire Prevention Chief.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Investigates fires where responsible chief officer is unable to determine fire origin or cause; investigates fire scene; searches for and secures evidence reflecting possible cause; if incendiary in origin, establishes events leading to the fire, characteristics of the fire itself, and circumstances and behavior following the occurrence; identifies witnesses; photographs scene; prepares report to the District Attorney's office.

Analyzes fires and fire losses by nature, location, cause, and other circumstances; notifies law enforcement authorities of the need for special patrol services; identifies premises likely subject to arson attempts.

Assists in the conducting of background investigations of applicants for employment as directed.

Maintains skill and proficiency in the handling and firing of firearms.

Responds to fire alarms or other emergencies as required.

Performs any related duties assigned.

Must demonstrate knowledge of fire prevention and arrest laws and ordinances.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the test.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States.

Must have no felony convictions.

Must have a high school diploma or a valid certificate of equivalency issued by a state board of education.

Must possess a valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by the State of Louisiana.

Must have at least three years of full time, paid experience in fire suppression or other fire related services with a federal, state, local or other governmental firefighting agency, or at least three years of experience in some other field such as fire insurance claims adjusting or industrial fire safety which would provide familiarity with fire hazards, fire codes and fire cause determination.

After offer of either employment or promotion to a position must meet and maintain any medical and physical fitness standards designed to demonstrate good health and the physical ability to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation, as determined by a qualified medical physician and administered by the Appointing Authority.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for confirmation upon completion of the probationary period, the employee:

Must attain P.O.S.T. certification, and

Must to be deputized to carry a weapon and enforce laws.

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